



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL
ADMINISTRATOR

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12/11/14

DEC 11 2014

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
Post Office Box 40002
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency is considering proposing the Grain Handling Facility at Freeman site in March 2015 on the Superfund National Priorities List, pursuant to its authority under Section 105 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 9605. The NPL contains a list of high priority sites with releases of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants that require long-term remedial evaluation and response. It is EPA's policy to determine the state's position on sites that the EPA is considering placing on the NPL. With this letter, the EPA is seeking the concurrence of the State of Washington on adding the Grain Handling Facility at Freeman site to the NPL.

In April 2014, the EPA conducted a site assessment in response to requests by state, local, and Freeman School District authorities for an investigation of ground water contamination at the Freeman School. The contaminants of concern found in the School District's water supply well are carbon tetrachloride and chloroform. Monitoring of this well revealed the presence of carbon tetrachloride at concentrations exceeding the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act Maximum Contaminant Level on multiple occasions. This well is used as the sole source of potable water to the Freeman School Campus which contains a pre-school, elementary, middle and high school. This well serves approximately 900 students, teachers, and workers. It is also used to irrigate the district's campus grounds and for fire protection.

The Freeman School District's primary water supply well has been fitted with a water treatment system to remove carbon tetrachloride and chloroform contamination prior to distribution. Sampling conducted by the EPA identified a source of contamination: the grain handling facility situated between State Route 27 and a Union Pacific Railroad line in Freeman, Washington. The EPA site assessment confirmed the presence of carbon tetrachloride and chloroform contamination in subsurface soils on the grain handling facility property. Adding the Grain Handling Facility at Freeman site to the NPL will help guarantee a comprehensive enforceable agreement with the responsible party/parties and will be an important milestone in protecting human health and ground water resources.

The EPA is requesting a written response to this letter from your office by December 30, 2014. The EPA has set this date to allow adequate time to meet the proposed rule schedule. The response letter should indicate whether the state supports placement of the site on the NPL. If the state does not support listing, the state should describe the alternative approach to placement on the NPL that will ensure the identified high priority site and associated release(s) will be addressed.

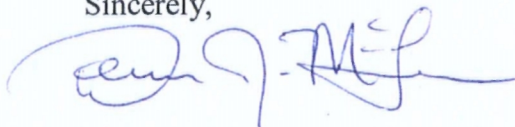
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We will continue to work closely with the state as the listing process proceeds. We appreciate your consideration of this matter. If additional information is needed, please call me at (206) 553-1234, or your staff may wish to contact Richard Albright, Director of Office of Environmental Cleanup at (206) 553-1847.

Sincerely,



Dennis J. McLerran
Regional Administrator

cc: Maia D. Bellon, Ecology
Jim Pendowski, Ecology
James Woolford, Director, Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation

Region 10 Routing and Concurrence

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Addressee:	Governor Jay Inslee		
Subject:	Grain Handling Facility at Freeman site		
File Location/Name:	G:\Denali\0 Admin ECL -Jen Brave\Correspondence-Other Units\Assessment & Brownfields Unit		

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cc(s) (include name, title, organization, mailing address, and email if PDF is required—attach a list if necessary)

bcc(s) (include name, title, organization, mailing address, and email if PDF is required—attach a list if necessary)

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Mailing Deadline:		Certified Mail:	
FAX to:		FAX #:	
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